Survey of villages not covered with potable water

*312. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked Indian Institute of Public Administration to conduct a survey of the villages and habitations that are not covered with potable drinking water;

(b) if so, whether there are about 6000 rural habitation that lack a single source of potable drinking water and 69,000 habitations are partially covered;

(c) if so, whether over two lakh habitations lack quality drinking water;

(d) if so, whether IIPA has conducted the survey; and

(e) if so, what are the outcome of the survey and what are the steps Government propose to take to provide potable drinking water to all the habitations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the Comprehensive Action Plan, 1999 and the subsequent coverage status reported by States/UTs till 1.11.2004, 5368 rural habitations have yet not been covered and 60884 rural habitations have been partially covered with the stipulated norms of 40 litres per capita per day (lpcd). In February 2003, all State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations were requested to conduct a fresh habitation survey. The Survey results received from 26 States and 3 UTs have been entrusted to Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) for validation.

(c) Water quality survey, conducted by the States, reveal there are 2,16,968 quality-affected habitations.

(d) The habitation survey was conducted by the States/UTs IIPA has been entrusted with the task of validation of these survey results.

(e) Water is a State subject. State Governments plan, sanction and implement drinking water supply projects for providing drinking water facilities to all rural habitations. The Central Government supplement their efforts by providing financial support and technical assistance under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply

Programme (ARWSP). With a view to provide drinking water to all habitations, the Government has taken the followign measures:—

* Higher budgetary allocation to accelerate coverage of Not Covered and Partialy Covered habitations and for tackling water quality problems. The budget allocation for rural drinking water sector for 2005-2006 has been increased by about 50%,
* Promoting involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in rural drinking water sector for sustainability of systems and sources,
* Setting up Sub-Mission projects to address water quality problems due to biochemical contamination, eradication of Guinea Worm, desalination of water, control of excess fluorosis, removal of excess Arsenic and Iron, recharging of ground water aquifers, and conservation of water and rain water harvesting,
* Piloting of a Community based rural drinking water quality monitoring and surveillance programme.
* Making available cost-effective technologies to State like hydrogeomorphological maps prepared for Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) by the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad showing prospective ground water zones and priority zones and sites for planning recharge structures.

Construction of temporary shelters for Tsunami victims

*313. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to construct temporary shelters for those Tsunami affected victim in Andaman and Nicobar Islands who have lost their belongings and rendered homeless;

(b) the number of people to be allotted such accommodations;

(c) whether the work will be completed before the on set of the monsoon;

(d) whether the victims will be provided infrastructure for starting their livelihood afresh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by when the work is likely to be completed?